

REFERENCE TITLE: school buses; rear bumpers

State of Arizona  
House of Representatives  
Forty-eighth Legislature  
First Regular Session  
2007

## **HB 2444**

Introduced by  
Representative Weiers JP

AN ACT

AMENDING SECTION 28-900, ARIZONA REVISED STATUTES; RELATING TO SCHOOL BUSES.

(TEXT OF BILL BEGINS ON NEXT PAGE)

1 Be it enacted by the Legislature of the State of Arizona:  
2 Section 1. Section 28-900, Arizona Revised Statutes, is amended to  
3 read:

4       **28-900. School bus rules: rear bumpers**

5       A. The department of administration in consultation with the  
6 department of public safety and with the school bus advisory council  
7 established by section 28-3053 shall adopt rules as necessary to improve the  
8 safety and welfare of school bus passengers by minimizing the probability of  
9 accidents involving school buses and school bus passengers and by minimizing  
10 the risk of serious bodily injury to school bus passengers in the event of an  
11 accident.

12       B. The rules may include:

- 13           1. Minimum standards for the design and equipment of school buses.
- 14           2. Minimum standards for the periodic inspection and maintenance of  
15 school buses.

16           3. Procedures for the operation of school buses.

17           4. Other criteria as deemed by the department of administration, the  
18 department of public safety and the school bus advisory council to be  
19 necessary and appropriate to ensure the safe operation of school buses.

20       C. The rules shall provide, if applicable, minimum standards equal to  
21 or more restrictive than those adopted by the United States department of  
22 transportation in accordance with 23 United States Code and rules adopted  
23 pursuant to 23 United States Code.

24       D. Notwithstanding a rule adopted by the department of administration  
25 with respect to exterior color of a school bus, in order to reduce the  
26 interior temperature of a school bus, the exterior top of a school bus may be  
27 painted white, but the white area shall not extend beyond the center  
28 clearance lights, front and rear, and shall not extend below a line five  
29 inches above the top of the side windows.

30       E. An officer or employee of any school district who violates any of  
31 the rules or who fails to include the obligation to comply with the rules in  
32 any contract executed by the officer or employee on behalf of a school  
33 district is guilty of misconduct and is subject to removal from office or  
34 employment. Any person who operates a school bus under contract with a  
35 school district and who fails to comply with any of the rules is in breach of  
36 contract, and the school district shall cancel the contract after notice and  
37 a hearing by the responsible officers of the school district.

38       **F. EVERY SCHOOL BUS THAT IS MANUFACTURED ON OR AFTER JANUARY 1, 2008  
39 AND THAT IS REGISTERED FOR OPERATION IN THIS STATE SHALL BE EQUIPPED WITH A  
40 REAR BUMPER THAT DOES NOT EXCEED A VERTICAL DISTANCE OF THIRTY INCHES FROM  
41 THE BOTTOM EDGE OF THE HORIZONTAL MEMBER OF THE BUMPER.**

42       **G. THE DIRECTOR OF THE DEPARTMENT OF ADMINISTRATION IN CONSULTATION  
43 WITH THE DIRECTOR OF THE DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC SAFETY SHALL ESTABLISH A  
44 SCHEDULE BY RULE FOR SCHOOL BUSES MANUFACTURED BEFORE JANUARY 1, 2008 TO  
45 COMPLY WITH SUBSECTION F OF THIS SECTION.**

1        H. THE DIRECTOR OF THE DEPARTMENT OF ADMINISTRATION MAY PROVIDE FOR  
2 EXCEPTIONS TO THE HEIGHT REQUIREMENT ESTABLISHED IN SUBSECTION F OF THIS  
3 SECTION IF THE DIRECTOR DETERMINES THAT DUE TO THE AREA OF OPERATION OF THE  
4 SCHOOL BUS, THE REAR BUMPER WOULD SCRAPE ON THE GROUND OR BECOME CAUGHT ON  
5 THE GROUND.

6        ~~F.~~ I. The department of public safety shall enforce the rules adopted  
7 pursuant to this section.